

**FIRE EDUCATION AND TRAINING COORDINATING BOARD
MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION**

November 7, 2013

Present: James Ball
Brian Jackvony
Scott Kettelle
Timothy McLaughlin
Mark Pare
Jay Petrillo
Howard Tighe
John Woodard

Absent: Joseph Bertholic
John Chartier
David Gorman
Mark St. Pierre
David Sayles
Mark Vincent

Presentation made by Michael J. Sturzenbecker, IFSTA/FPP Representative. (Literature Attached)

Student prices - eBook with expanded \$59.50; the standard textbook \$70; expanded which includes EMS and HM \$95.

(Discussion)

Open Session of the Fire Education and Training Coordinating Board was called to order at 10:06 a.m. by Chairperson Kettelle.

Motion made and approved to accept Minutes from last month's meeting.

MARSHAL'S REPORT: Absent.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Meeting was held yesterday regarding Phase 2's design, overall look in Exeter.

New skill sheets are ready and all department chiefs and training officers will be notified that they are available and will be effective January 1, 2014. These are a much better way to evaluate the skills of the student. The department may request the new sheets and use them during in-house training and practice all the same skills that students will be evaluated at in their certification process.

Challenge Process – ProBoard has indicated that as long as we mirror our testing procedure used for our ProBoard accredited programs, then we are able to issue ProBoard stamped certificates. We will be using IFSTA Essential of Firefighting - 5th edition, FF-1 exam consisting of 100 questions, FF-2 exam consisting of 50 questions exam; and then we will have to determine which skills for evaluation. How long do we want to extend this process and exactly what skills do we need to cover before they go in the burn building. We will provide 10 skill sets and they will be tested on 5 of the 10 which will be randomly selected. Everything will follow NFPA standards.

(Discussion)

We need to educate the Rhode Island fire service that this is a limited opportunity, given to your people on your department, a baseline prerequisite to advance. A letter to all department chiefs and training divisions explaining this process and what the prerequisites are in order to participate in this challenge will be sent out in December.

(Discussion)

Any members with less than five years experience may make an application through the Fire Education Training & Coordinating Board. We need to see when we should close the application period, the scheduling of written exams, the scheduling of skills evaluations, and the cost per student based on the total number of applications.

(Discussion)

AF Grant opened Monday and have been in contact with Dave Par about our priorities, Apparatus, SCBA, and PPE, which is our basic priority list and he supports it. The one engine is helpful. It shows a need. This was presented to the State Police and Colonel O'Donnell supports this as well. The grant requires us with 15% match which is \$575,000, if we max out. The \$75,000 will most likely come out of the restricted account (UTR account).

Sue Hawksley did the draft. She has sat on many review boards before and was instrumental with the document. I will provide copies for the board to review and then file it.

After both presentations, Jones & Bartlett and IFSTA, I would like to continue our relationship with IFSTA. There will be an instructor update meeting so all instructors are aware of the changes in technology, the textbook, and the skill sheets.

(Discussion)

Last Friday, the Exeter Training Facility hosted numerous training activities with over 190 members from the HazMat teams. We exposed our facility to over 200 members of the public during this exercise and it all went flawlessly.

(Discussion)

We had three different venues. A bus was brought on site for the white powder incident, evidence collection using the 12-step process; meth lab in the burn building (virtual scene); rail car simulator/Urban rescue and search simulator and shutdown a leaking issue and using Chlorine C kits, hot/cold/warm zones.

(Discussion)

Letter to the Governor from the Board requesting additional funds of \$1.5 million for Phase 2. Rhode Island Fire Chiefs will also forward a letter of request.

Instructors were trained on uses of the Collapsible Building Simulator. This piece of equipment has multiple uses, cameras, tubes, mazes, and railcar simulator. We'd like to use it as a SCBA confidence builder and incorporate this into the FF-1 program as well as use it in the FF-2 program as a challenging obstacle course type training. Will reach out and offer this important training simulator to the Hazmat teams of Rhode Island, which may be used as a chemical suicide training prop.

(Discussion)

Tow Truck Association of Rhode Island holds their trainings at the Exeter Training Facility and they leave their training vehicles behind for the academy's extrication and other training exercises. Currently there are 6 vehicles ready for extrication.

(Discussion)

Safety issues at the Exeter Training Facility. Strong winds wreck havoc on the safety of the students during ventilation exercises with the windows swinging back or coming down. These windows need to be corrected and a safety record has to be established to address any future injuries, repairs, and concerns.

(Discussion)

Met with the Fire Service Curriculum board at CCRI regarding students earning credits towards their programs from our Firefighter Level 1 & 2 programs. I am waiting to meet with Providence College's board to address this issue as well.

1403 Live Burn - Use of mannequin guidelines.

(Discussion)

Chief has received numerous complaints after the 1031 Fire Inspector program about the outdated and ill-working computer in the classroom.

(Discussion)

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Nothing new to present.

OLD BUSINESS:

After a review of the Highway Incidence Management program, it was determined that there is not enough material to stand on its own. A more appropriate placement would be to add it to the 1021 Fire Officer Program.

(Discussion)

NEW BUSINESS:

GHS - Global Harmonization System, OSHA requirement training to be completed by December 31, 2013, regarding new placard system.

(Discussion)

Rhode Island Fire Academy Instructor Applications for Michael Dillon and Robert Mann were presented for review and acceptance.

(Discussion)

Motion made and approved to accept both applicants to the Rhode Island Fire Academy Instructor Cadre.

Motion made and approved to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.